

Fig.1.

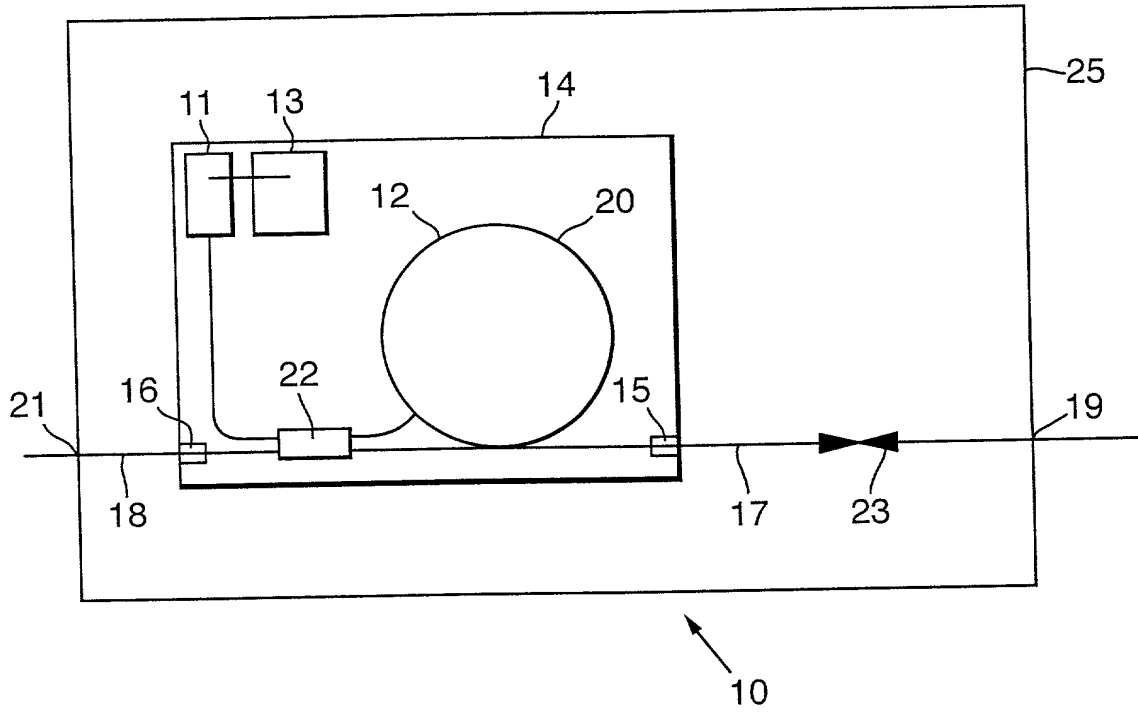
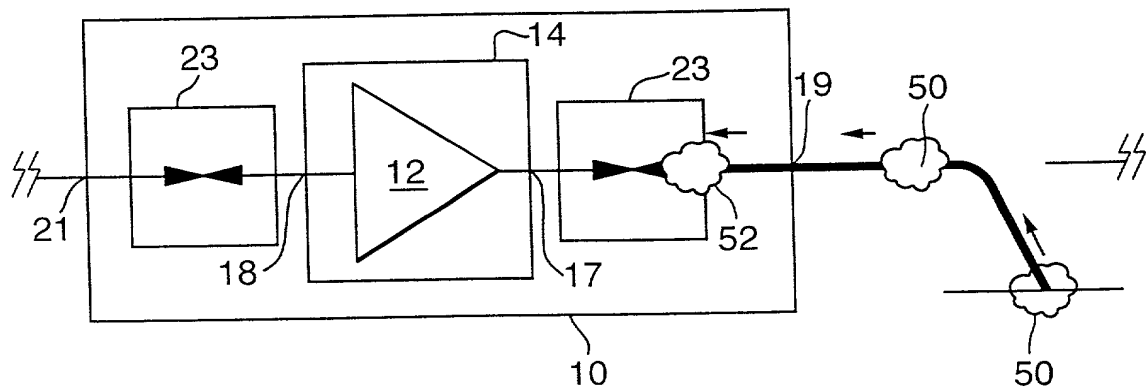


Fig.2.



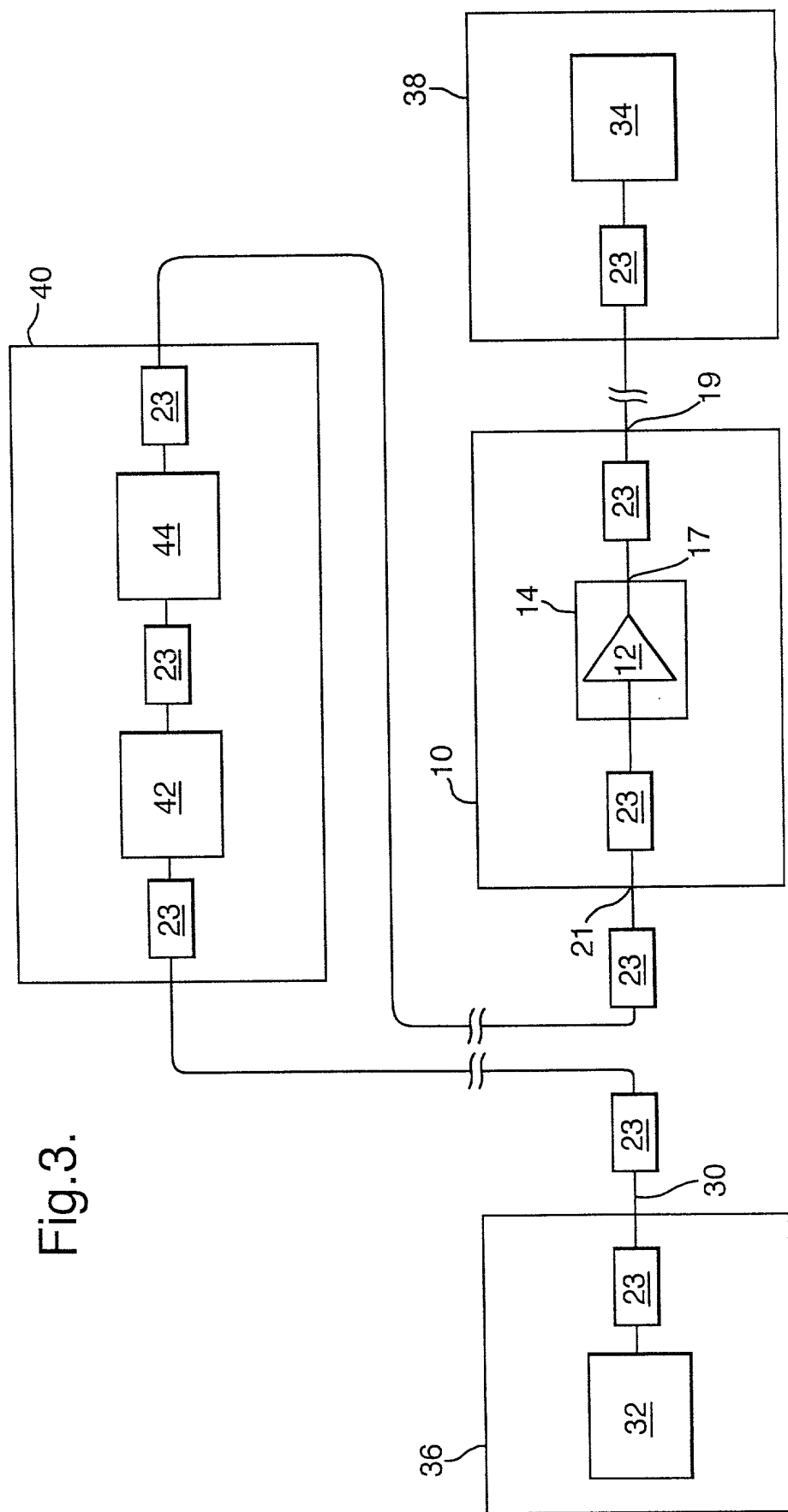
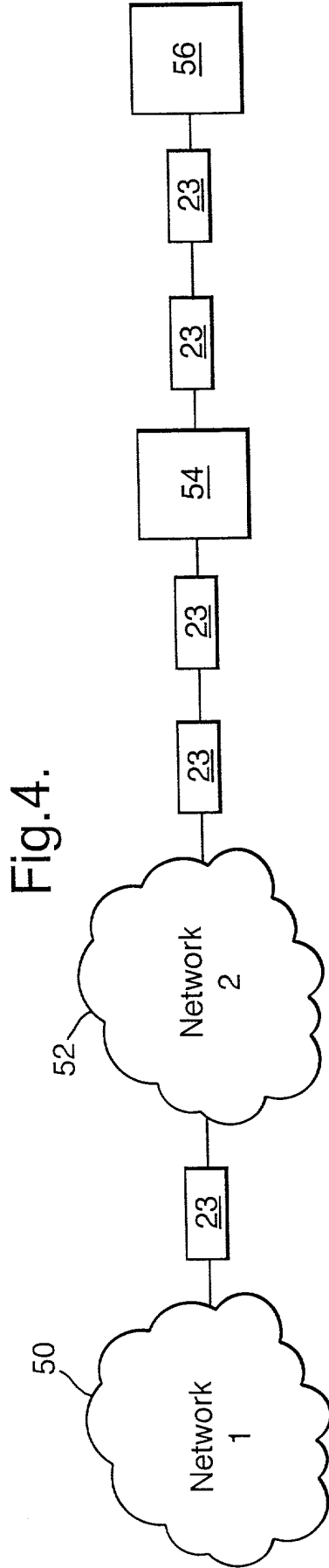
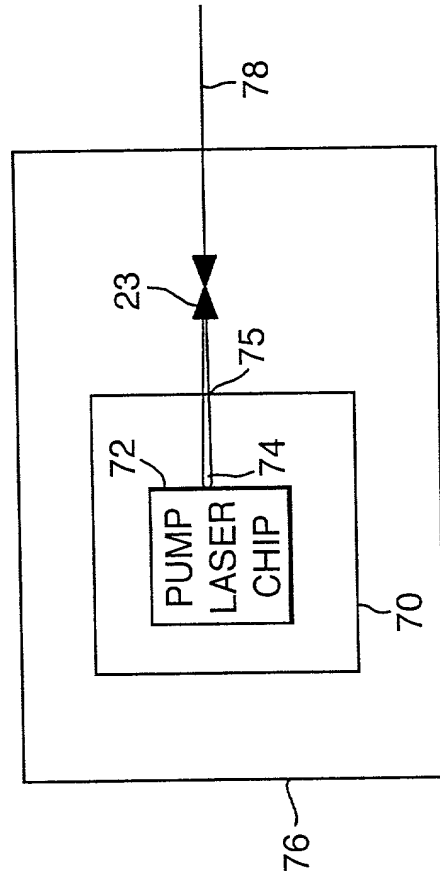


Fig. 3.



**Fig.6.**



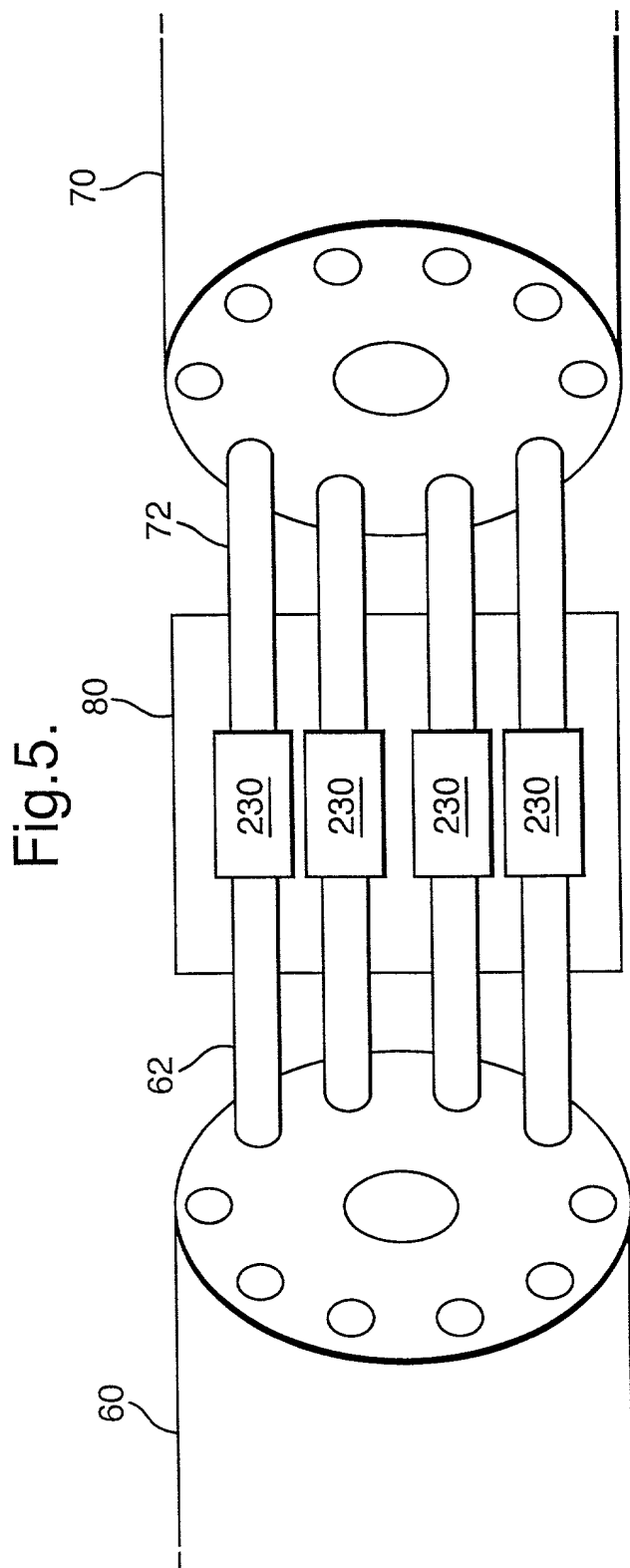


Fig.7.

Velocity of damage propagation as a function of power in core for three fibres, A, B & C. There is a linear dependence on the input power, but it varies for each fibre and wavelength.

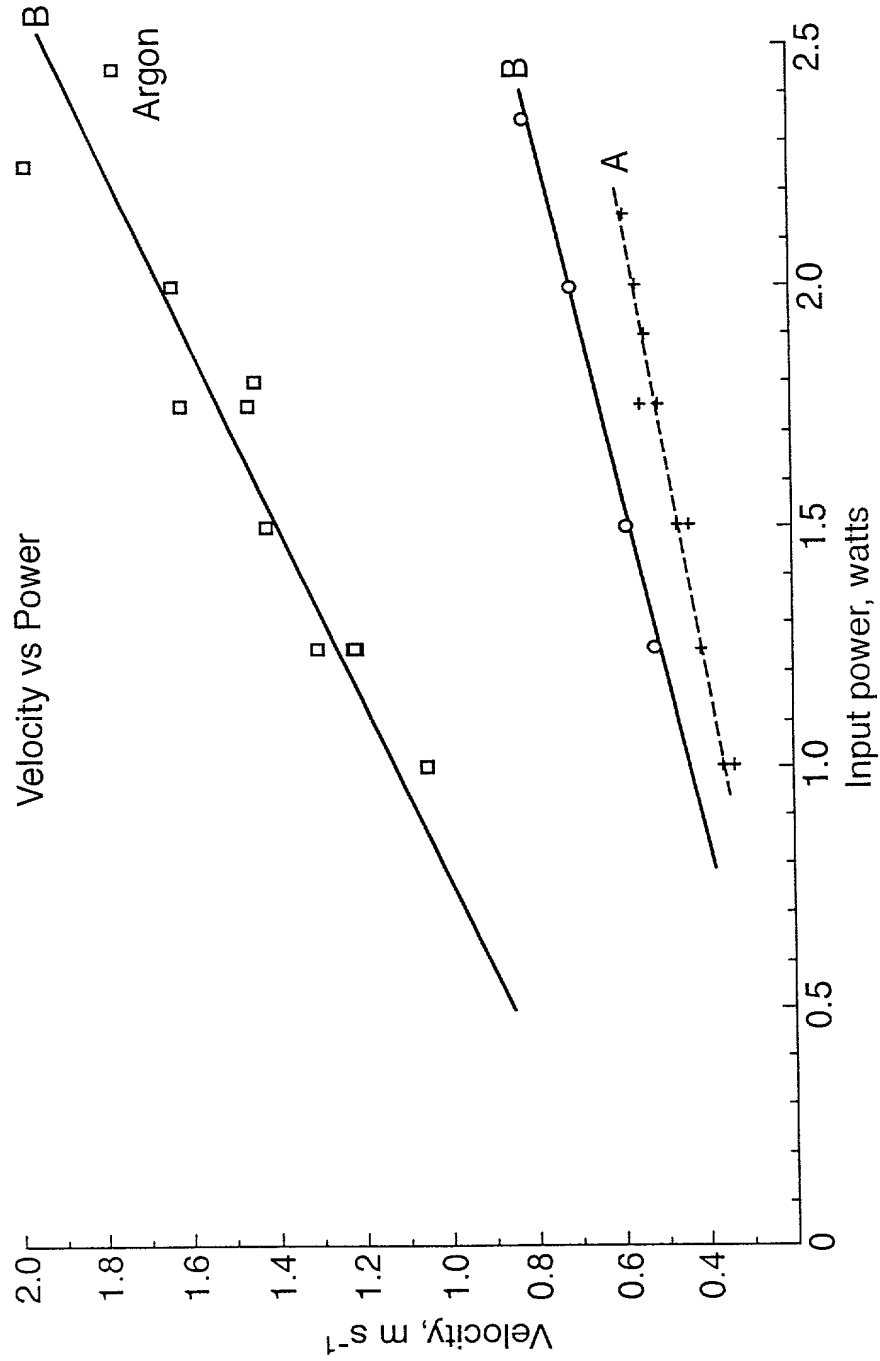


Fig.8.

Measured (data points) and calculated (continuous curves) velocity of damage propagation in two types of silica fibre, 'A' & 'B' at 1.604  $\mu\text{m}$  and 0.514  $\mu\text{m}$ . The absorption factors used in the calculations are shown. The slopes are sensitive to the choice of the absorption factor.

